

APRIL 9, 2012

Virginia: At a regular meeting of the Council for the Town of Chatham, held at the Chatham Fire Station at 7:00 P.M. on April 9, 2012.

Present: Joseph H. Rogers, Mayor

Robert B. Thompson, Vice Mayor

Council Members: Janet R. Bishop, William P. Black, Roy P. Byrd, Alvin R. Crider, and Andrew D. Wall.

Attorney: Larry Gott.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Councilman Crider and the Invocation was led by Mayor Rogers.

On a motion by Black seconded by Wall Council approved the agenda as presented.

The Vote: Aye: Council Members; Wall, Thompson, Crider, Byrd, Black, and Bishop.

Town Manager Edmund Giles reported that there would be a bid opening on April 11, 2012 for the largest portion of the grant work to be performed at the water plant.

He said that the town has received \$10k grant from the Dan River Foundation toward the purchase of playground equipment at Harris Field. The total cost for that project is \$22,999.95. He expects additional grants to be forthcoming.

He announced that the VA Office of Drinking Water is to present its Platinum Award to the Chatham Water Plant Supervisor Rodney Bryant on May 5 at a ceremony in Roanoke. He said that Rodney, Adam Brooks, and John Richardson are to be congratulated for receiving this, the state's highest award.

Giles has discussed with the Sheriff the problem with jail inmates flushing foreign objects into the town sewer system. He has recommended that the County place a screen in the system to filter those items.

Giles said that Dewberry will devise a Pretreatment Ordinance for the town at a cost of \$2730. This needs to be in next years' budget.

Upon the request of Giles, council approved a motion by Wall seconded by Crider to hire two summer employees to work with the town crew at \$9.00 per hour until the end of September.

The Vote: Aye; Council Members; Black, Wall, Byrd, Thompson, Bishop, and Crider.

Clerk/Treasurer David Cothran reminded council that the 2012/13 budgeting process has begun and requests for capital improvements need to be submitted by the end of April.

Cothran also reported that collection of past due taxes has improved since January 1 in an amount of nearly \$10k.

On a motion by Crider seconded by Bishop Council approved the minutes of the April 3, 2012 meeting.

The Vote: Aye: Council Members; Crider, Bishop, Wall, and Black.

Abstain: Council members; Thompson, and Byrd.

On a motion by Wall seconded by Black council approved the balance of the consent agenda to include salaries and paid and unpaid bills in the amount of \$152,095.04.

The Vote: Aye: Council Members; Byrd, Bishop, Wall, Black, Crider, and Thompson.

On a motion by Byrd seconded by Thompson council approved the Pretreatment Ordinance bid of Dewberry in the amount of \$2,730.

The Vote: Aye: Council members; Wall, Black, Crider, Bishop, Thompson, and Byrd.

Councilwoman Bishop recommended to council the approval of a Resolution to Chatham First its support in their efforts to market the Old Chatham Elementary School to a developer. She said that the Board of Supervisors had stated that they would postpone the auction of the school if Chatham First could devise a viable plan for its sale and development. The Resolution will be presented to the Board at its next meeting on April 17. Council at a special meeting on April 3, 2012 had approved a donation to Chatham First in an amount of \$15,000 for their discretionary use in devising a successful plan for the school.

Councilman Byrd stated that the school is already in a state of ill repair and should be auctioned by the county and be rid of it. He said that no more town tax money should go toward the school property as it should be sold for whatever it will bring.

Mayor Rogers said that the town would not be risking ownership in the property as it is not an open ended commitment. The town has little financial risk. Chatham First is assuming the ownership risk.

Attorney Gott reminded council that the vote to come is not on approval of the Chatham First donation but on supporting the organization in it marketing effort.

On a motion by Wall seconded by Black council approved the resolution from council in supporting the plan to be presented to the Board of Supervisors by Chatham First.

The Vote: Aye: Council members; Black, Wall, Bishop, and Crider.

Nay: Council Members; Byrd and Thompson.

On the issue of the contract for trash services with First Piedmont Corp., Councilman Byrd requested that a representative from First Piedmont be present at the next council meeting to answer questions. Approval of the contract was delayed until that meeting.

On a motion by Thompson seconded by Black council approved the adverting expense of the Water Quality Report in the Star Tribune in the amount of \$500.00.

That Vote: Aye: Council Members; Thompson, Crider, Byrd, Bishop, Wall, and Black.

Mayor Rogers stated that the Town must approve a new slate of members for the Zoning Board. He asked that council members recommend nominees by the June meeting for consideration to be sent to the Planning Commission for their approval.

Having no further business council was adjourned.

Mayor

Attest: